

# OREGON CROP WEATHER



OREGON  
AGRICULTURAL  
STATISTICS  
SERVICE

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**Weather:** Rain, showers, and damp conditions prevailed over much of the State this past week, helping many crops but limiting many types of fieldwork. Temperatures were also significantly cooler than the previous week, with high temperatures ranging from the upper sixties to the mid-seventies; low temperatures generally fell in the forties in western Oregon and in the thirties across much of eastern Oregon. Overnight temperatures in Klamath County were again near freezing, causing some light morning frost; some hail also occurred there earlier in the week. Sherman and Morrow counties appear ready to have their first average to above-average crop season in several years, due to the rains of recent weeks. Some strong winds dried off the top layer of topsoil in some areas of Malheur County. Topsoil moisture in the southwestern Oregon coast was reported as mostly adequate.

**Field Crops:** Wheat farmers welcomed the rain. Winter wheat has started to head in Baker County; most other areas were reporting headed winter and spring wheat near 100 percent. Stripe rust was spotted in some winter wheat fields in Marion County and has been found the last two weeks in Crook County. In Umatilla County some wheat was knocked down by the severe storms that passed through the area. The rain has caught some producers with hay down and delayed some cuttings throughout Oregon. In Klamath County, first hay cutting continues as grain crops continue to look good with some spraying being done for weed control. Wasco County farmers welcomed the timely rain, expecting that it will help wheat kernel development and improve yields.

**Vegetables:** Cooler temperatures slowed vegetable growth in Clackamas County. Sweet corn planting continued in Washington County. Early sweet corn, squash and tomato plantings were growing well. In Jackson County, however, the cool weather has slowed melon growth. Potatoes are 100 percent planted in Klamath County with 50 percent emerged.

**Nurseries and Greenhouses:** Nursery operations are into a summer maintenance mode of operation, which includes irrigating their plants, working on weed control, spraying for insects and mildew, and moving potted plants. Easter lily growers in Curry County were busy removing flower buds, weeding, and watering this week. Also in Curry County, hydrangeas growers were harvesting cuttings for new plant starts.

**Fruit and Nuts:** Early sweet cherry harvest began in Yamhill County with the main Willamette Valley harvest to begin this week. Chelan and Gilbralter varieties were picked in Wasco County last week; early Bing harvest should start this week. Later variety cherries were still green. Cool winds helped minimize splitting damaged caused by the recent storms, although rains early last week caused substantial damage in the lower Hood River Valley. Sweet cherry harvest should continue through July. Strawberry picking continued between rain showers with some damage reported. Southern coast cranberries continued to develop with Crowley cultivar at 50 percent hook and 50 percent bloom, and Stevens cultivar at 50 to 100 percent berry set.

**Livestock, Range and Pasture:** Rangeland and pasture conditions across the State were reported mostly in the good to excellent categories. Recent precipitation should prolong dryland pastures into the summer months in western Oregon. Rangeland conditions in eastern Oregon continued to look generally good. Cooler temperatures slowed pasture growth, but the precipitation received was very much welcomed. Grasshoppers were reported in some areas generating concerns from producers about pasture loss as the insects mature. Livestock were reported in good condition throughout the State.

**Crop Progress - Week Ending 6/13/04**

	This week	Previous week	Last year	5 year average
Barley emerged (%)	98	94	95	—
Barley headed (%)	42	22	45	—
Spring Wheat headed (%)	72	58	—	—
Winter Wheat headed (%)	96	84	84	83
Days suitable for fieldwork	5.1	6.4	—	—

**Soil Moisture - Week Ending 6/13/04**

	Very short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
Topsoil (%)	2	24	73	1
Subsoil (%)	6	36	57	1

**Crop Condition - Week Ending 6/13/04**

	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Winter Wheat (%)	—	11	41	42	6
Barley (%)	—	1	37	54	8
Range & Pasture (%)	1	11	34	41	13

**CLACKAMAS:** Hay making has been delayed by rains, but grain yields will be enhanced. Strawberry picking continued between showers with some mold showing up. Early raspberry harvest began, much earlier than normal. Marion blackberries are sizing rapidly. Vegetable growth has slowed with cool temperatures. Nursery and greenhouse activities are primarily relegated to normal maintenance. Cattle are looking good with slick coats. Recent rains are prolonging dryland pastures into the summer grazing.

**COOS/CURRY:** Topsoil moisture estimate: 15 percent Short, 85 percent adequate. Five days were suitable for fieldwork in Coos County and seven days in Curry County during the week. In cranberries, black vine weevil adults were actively foraging in some beds; some growers were using sweep nets at night to detect problem areas. Cranberry development: Crowley cultivar was at 50 percent hook and 50 percent bloom; Stevens cultivar was estimated to be at 50 to 100 percent berry set. Easter lily growers in Curry County were busy removing flower buds, weeding, and watering this week. There was still some ground preparation going on. In hydrangeas (Curry County), harvest of cuttings continued. Livestock are good. Pastures are mostly good. Weather: More clouds and cooler. Precipitation was significant with more falling to the north. Average air temperatures at coastal AgriMet weather stations ranged from 55.4 degrees F at Bandon to 56.1 degrees F at Brookings-Harbor; highs ranged from 61.6 to 68.3 degrees F, and lows ranged from 44.4 to 46.2 degrees F. Precipitation ranged from 0.38 inches at Brookings-Harbor to 1.10 inches at Bandon. Growing degree days (base 50 degrees F) ranged from 42 GDD at Bandon to 46 GDD at Brookings-Harbor.

**JACKSON:** First cutting alfalfa harvest winding down. Considerable grass hay this year. Tree fruits doing well with no major problems. Second cover sprays completed and irrigation continues. Sweet corn, squash, and tomatoes growing well; cool weather has slowed growth of melons. Planting has stopped until the soil dries. Crops that are in are growing nicely. Greenhouse and nursery crops sales have stopped due to the wet weather.

**LANE/LINN/BENTON:** Not much change for fruit. Lots of secondary infection from scab and peach leaf curl due to the wet weather. Last week's strawberry crop destroyed. Some cherries splitting. Cherry harvest predicted to be June 14.

**MARION:** Stripe rust has become a big problem in some of the winter wheat fields. Rain this week has helped most crops and the new plantings of grass seed. It has stalled some of the row crop plantings, however. Rust spraying continues on grass seed crops. However, rust pressure seems to be less than it was earlier in the spring.

**WASHINGTON:** Field corn growing well. Hay got wet. Clover for seed looking good. Strawberries and raspberries doing very well and harvest ongoing. Lettuce at stands. Potatoes doing well. Sweet corn planting continues and early planting showing good growth. Spraying nursery crops for insects and mildew. Pastures holding up with rains providing moisture.

**YAMHILL:** Sweet cherry harvest is in progress. Corums and Badas are the first to be harvested. The yields on sweet cherry orchards have been variable, ranging from poor to excellent. Apple post bloom thinning is being accomplished.

## EASTERN OREGON

**BAKER:** Winter wheat starting to head. Potatoes look fine despite some frosty mornings. A little haylage has been started. Livestock doing well. Rains last week really bailed the range out. We have largely missed the precipitation this week. Cool, damp, and cloudy weather, but no real moisture.

**CROOK/DESCHUTES/JEFFERSON:** Close to a dozen fields of Basin soft white winter wheat and a field or two of Twin soft white spring wheat have had pretty good hits of stripe rust in the last two weeks. Most of these fields have been in Crook County. Lots of hay down in all three counties. A lot more hay should come down this coming week with the nicer weather predicted. Rain showers the last two weeks have caught a lot of producers with hay down, especially in Jefferson County. The first couple of weeks of June have not been kind to hay producers. The showers were spotty in terms of total precipitation received by different areas. Tractor Safety Training for Youth will be taught June 15-17 in Madras for the Tri-County youth aged 14-17 who will be working on farms this summer (taught by OSU Extension).

**HARNEY:** First crop alfalfa harvest beginning. On the most progressive farms, hay is off and water is back on. Start of grass hay harvest is two to three weeks away.

**HOOD RIVER:** Cool and windy weather prevailed during much of the week. Rain early in the week resulted in pear scab infection periods throughout the Hood River Valley. Rain also caused substantial damage to early maturing cherries in the lower Hood River Valley.

**KLAMATH:** Temperatures were again cooler in the Klamath Basin with daytime highs in the fifties and sixties. Overnight temperatures were near freezing. Showers on Monday brought hail and rain. Grasshoppers have emerged in the northern part of the county, leading to speculation of pasture losses as they mature. In the southern part of the county haying continues, with some first cutting being rained on by the storms. Grain, onion and mint crops continue to look good and some potatoes continue to emerge. First hay cut continues, spraying grain for weed control. Potato planting is complete, with 50 percent already emerged. Pasture to pasture movement nearly complete. Cool days and light morning frost slowed pasture growth.

**LAKE:** Some moisture received early in the week. Pastures look good.

**MALHEUR:** Cool weather all last week helped the wheat crops but slowed corn and sugarbeet growth. Winds all week also dried the top layer of soil, so irrigators are having to hustle to keep their rotation on track. Most of the first cutting of alfalfa that was rain delayed has been completed and is in the bale. Warmer temperatures this week should get the corn growing again.

**MORROW:** Can you believe this? It's still raining and has rained everyday this week. Hays fields are not doing so well this year, but the dryland crops are going to have a much better year than the last several years.

**SHERMAN:** Rain blessed us with just over an inch in 24 hours with perfect timing for filling kernels. Put a stop to most field work. Great turnout of happy growers at Sherman Station Field Day. Cows happy, too, with rain. Rains mean that we will have first average to above-average crop in six years.

**UMATILLA:** The cherry crop has been lost in most orchards. Lots of second cutting of alfalfa hay is getting rained on. Some severe storms have knocked down some wheat.

**UNION:** Rains continue. First cutting of hay is delayed in most areas.

**WALLOWA:** Not much change from last week. More moisture received, but still need some warmer weather. Range conditions are generally good.

**WASCO:** An inch of rain fell on the cherry orchards Tuesday; some damage is expected, but that won't be determine until later. Picking had started Monday on Chelans and Gibralters, but picking on the earliest Bing cherries won't get underway until next week, and harvest won't be in full swing until a while later. A lot of later cherries are still pretty green. Cool winds Wednesday and Thursday have helped dry out the cherries before hot, sunny weather could cause extensive splitting. With all the new cherry varieties with different ripening dates, harvest is now expected to continue through July. Wheat farmers, however, welcomed the timely rain. The rain should help kernel development and improve yields. Grain field activities were slowed with the rain. Swathed alfalfa hay got drenched in the curing windrows and may have to be turned this next week. Most range grasses are fully mature, but the heavy precipitation will extend pasture life. Cattle and sheep continue to do well on dryland ranges.

**WEATHER DATA FOR SELECTED STATIONS IN OREGON WEEK ENDING June 13, 2004 (as of 11:00 am)**

STATION	AIR TEMPERATURE				GROWING DEGREE DAYS BASE-50F		LAST WEEK PRECIP			SEASON CUM PRECIPITATION			
	LO	HI	AVG	DFN	TOTAL	DFN	TOTAL INCHES	DFN	DAYS	TOTAL INCHES	DFN	PCT NORMAL	DAYS
<b>COASTAL AREAS</b>													
Astoria/Clatsop	45	66	57	1	49	5	0.97	0.36	7	60.92	-1.84	97	183
Crescent City	45	65	55	-1	40	-2	0.03	-0.34	3	53.21	-10.14	84	142
Florence	45	66	56	-2	44	-5	1.14	0.52	5	70.37	-2.82	96	176
North Bend	48	63	56	-1	46	-2	1.06	0.64	5	64.58	3.38	106	168
Tillamook	43	64	56	1	42	5	1.27	0.46	6	82.74	-1.01	99	188
<b>WILLAMETTE VALLEY</b>													
Corvallis	48	70	59	-2	64	-6	0.90	0.58	4	30.68	-10.07	75	130
Eugene	46	70	57	-4	53	-24	1.02	0.65	4	37.85	-9.29	80	146
Hillsboro	47	70	59	-3	61	-13	0.18	-0.17	4	29.68	-5.59	84	152
McMinnville	46	68	58	-4	56	-17	0.38	0.10	3	32.86	-8.66	79	150
Portland AP	51	69	59	-4	67	-21	0.63	0.25	4	28.65	-5.25	85	149
Salem	46	67	57	-4	53	-21	1.52	1.17	6	37.62	0.41	101	155
<b>SW VALLEYS</b>													
Grants Pass	47	76	59	-7	67	-41	0.36	0.22	2	28.12	-1.98	93	115
Medford	46	79	60	-6	72	-34	0.18	0.04	2	19.10	1.29	107	112
Roseburg AP	45	72	57	-6	52	-36	1.15	0.94	4	32.91	1.60	105	137
<b>NORTH CENTRAL</b>													
Condon	37	66	52	-7	19	-41	0.81	0.53	4	16.46	4.04	133	91
Heppner	42	73	57	-6	50	-35	0.92	0.68	4	13.45	0.98	108	125
Hermiston AP	45	77	60	-7	72	-39	1.58	1.44	3	10.50	2.33	129	87
John Day	40	72	53	-8	25	-49	0.41	0.06	4	10.49	-0.71	94	107
Moro	40	68	54	-7	31	-40	1.01	0.87	5	11.85	1.79	118	89
Pendleton AP	45	75	58	-7	61	-44	1.41	1.27	4	13.47	2.63	124	98
The Dalles	47	72	61	1	78	5	0.96	0.82	1	13.63	2.20	119	100
<b>SOUTH CENTRAL</b>													
Bend	31	69	49	-8	8	-40	0.25	0.04	3	12.50	2.31	123	78
Burns AP	33	74	52	-6	20	-30	0.34	0.13	2	8.46	-0.03	100	83
Klamath Falls	30	73	50	-11	14	-55	0.05	-0.12	1	11.52	-0.71	94	94
Lakeview	28	73	50	-8	17	-41	0.13	-0.15	2	8.68	-5.51	61	60
Redmond	30	72	52	-7	18	-42	0.43	0.23	3	9.32	2.07	129	79
<b>NORTHEAST</b>													
Baker City	36	72	53	-7	25	-41	0.04	-0.31	3	6.71	-1.96	77	90
Joseph	32	68	51	-3	15	-16	0.86	0.42	6	14.78	-7.30	67	117
La Grande AP	41	72	55	-7	36	-43	0.50	0.15	3	12.49	-2.74	82	95
Union	36	66	53	-7	21	-41	0.52	0.10	5	14.25	2.73	124	120
<b>SOUTHEAST</b>													
Ontario	46	81	62	-6	83	-38	0.07	-0.14	1	8.16	-0.58	93	69
Rome	37	81	58	-6	57	-34	0.37	0.11	4	6.86	-0.12	98	73

Summary based on National Weather Service data.

Season Cumulative Precip Starts: Monday, September 1, 2003.

DFN=Departure from normal (using 1961-90 normals period).

Precipitation Days = Days with precipitation of 0.01 inch or more.

Precipitation (rain or melted snow/ice) in inches.

Air Temperatures in Degrees Fahrenheit.

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